

The Mint Master

PRESIDENTS MESSAGE—AUGUST

How about our UNS Pinic last month, the weather was good, the food was GREAT, and we had electricity to keep the meat hot and the snow cones cold. There was a great turnout, I counted over 90 people. The kids had a great time especially in the 'Straw Hunt' for coins with a special thanks to Larry Kimura for making that a rousing success. Darin Lee, our curator, was out of town and it is always pleasing with another member of the club jumps in to make whatever function we have a success. I also want to thank all of you who brought salads, chips, and desserts, I know I enjoyed them and from the looks of the empty plates everyone else did too. My snow cone machine saw extra duty as over 60 of the tasty cold treats were given away to little as well as big kids.

This month we will have Bruce Griggs as our guest speaker. Bruce as been a past UNS president and always has interesting stories to tell. Bruce is a great asset to our club among the rest of you who helps make the UNS great.

Have a good summer and I hope to see you all on Autust 9th. Remember to bring a friend. See you there.

Larry N. Nielsen



AUGUST'S AGENDA

GreetingsLarry Nielsen
Mini Exhibit..... Tom Davis
News & Views..... Bruce Griggs
Coin Quiz..... Bruce Griggs
Refreshments..... Larry Kimurs

HIGHLIGHTS INSIDE THIS ISSUE

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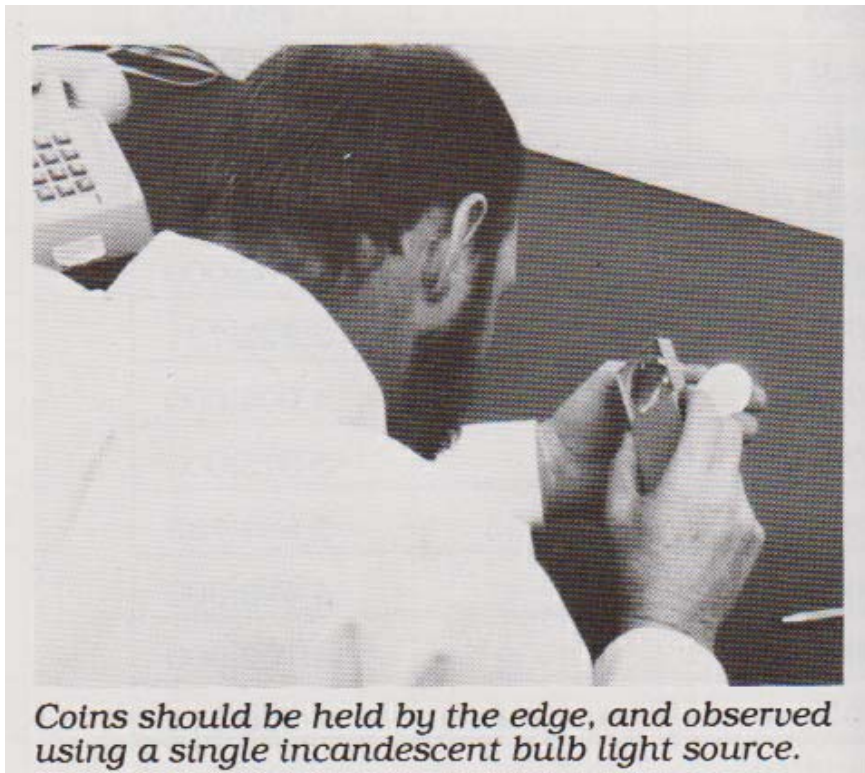
Technique For Grading Mint State Morgan Dollars

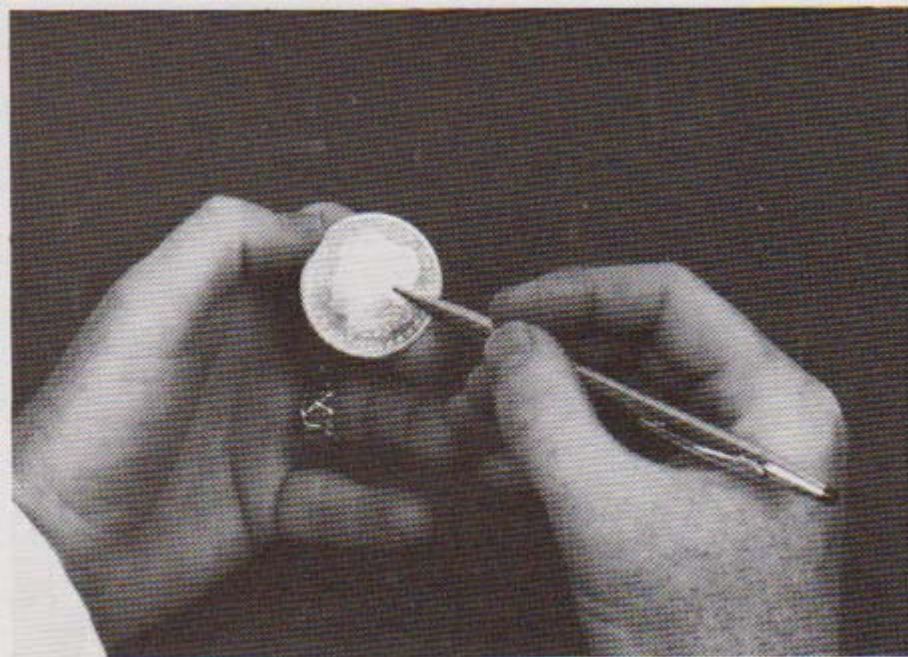
Steve Ivy

The following article appeared in the book "What Every Silver Dollar Buyer Should Know" by Steve Ivy and Ron Howard. This book was published by Ivy Press in Dallas in 1984. I had this book in my library and read the article and although over 30 years has passed the information contained therein is very accurate and still applies to the grading of Morgan Dollars today. Permission was granted from Steve Ivy to reproduce his article which is published in its entirety below.

To aid consistency, the grader should duplicate lighting conditions as much as possible each time he examines a group of coins. The authors recommend a 75 watt lamp in an otherwise dim room. Sunlight or fluorescent lighting should be avoided. If magnification is used, no more than a 5x should be utilized.

1. Scan the obverse for just a few seconds, taking a mental note of the severity of the bagmarks on Liberty's cheek, the detail in the hair curls above her ear, and the quality of the coin's luster.
2. Scan the reverse in a similar fashion, looking first at the eagle's breast to check for bagmarks and the sharpness of the strike. Register your initial impression of the luster. You should, at this point, have the grade tentatively determined, or at least reduced to two possibilities among MS 60, 63, 65, 67, and 69.
3. Re-examine the obverse, this time more closely. Check for bagmarks that may be camouflaged under toning or by details of the coin's design. Sometimes, other large marks can be deceptively concealed among the intricate lines of Liberty's hair. A scratch could be con-



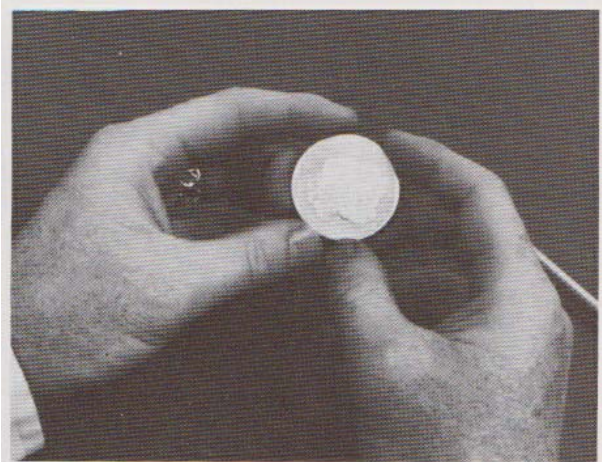


Scan the obverse and reverse checking for obvious marks, making note of their severity.

centric to, and between, the denticles and the lettering, and thus not be immediately noticeable. Make sure you haven't missed any mark or defect that affects the coin's grade. Examine the rims closely for nicks and bumps.

4. Inspect Liberty's check for rubbing (wear) and slide marks. To do this, hold the dollar perpendicular to your line of vision and positioned so that the face of Liberty is well illuminated. Focus

your sight on a point created by the intersection of a hypothetical line drawn vertically from the corner of Liberty's eye and another extended horizontally from her mouth. Slowly tilt the coin toward the light and then return it to its original position. Do this at several different angles riveting your attention to the area surrounding the focal point. If there is any rubbing on the obverse, it will interrupt the luster in this area. The rubbing may not be noticeable in one position, but be obvious in another. Therefore, the rotation of the coin beneath a proper light source is essential. This method is very effective in revealing slide marks. Slide marks are very thin, hair-line scratches on Liberty's face. They are most often the result of a plastic panel from a coin album being pulled across the surface of the dollar. These slide marks are usually between one eighth and one quarter inch long and parallel to one another. They are usually roughly horizontal and may vary in number from a single mark to a dozen or more. If the dollar is held and tilted, as prescribed in the preceding paragraph, the light will reveal the slide marks to the viewer. They are not at all similar to bagmarks, but rather appear as very bright, thin scratches on the surface.



Reexamine the obverse more closely, rotating the reflection of the light off the surface of the coin.



Reexamine the reverse looking "through" any dark toning to see the surfaces of the coin.

5. Reexamine the reverse, this time more closely. Check for camouflaged bagmarks and hidden scratches. Examine the rims carefully. Look at the wreath - some weakness in striking will often be evident in the details of this device.

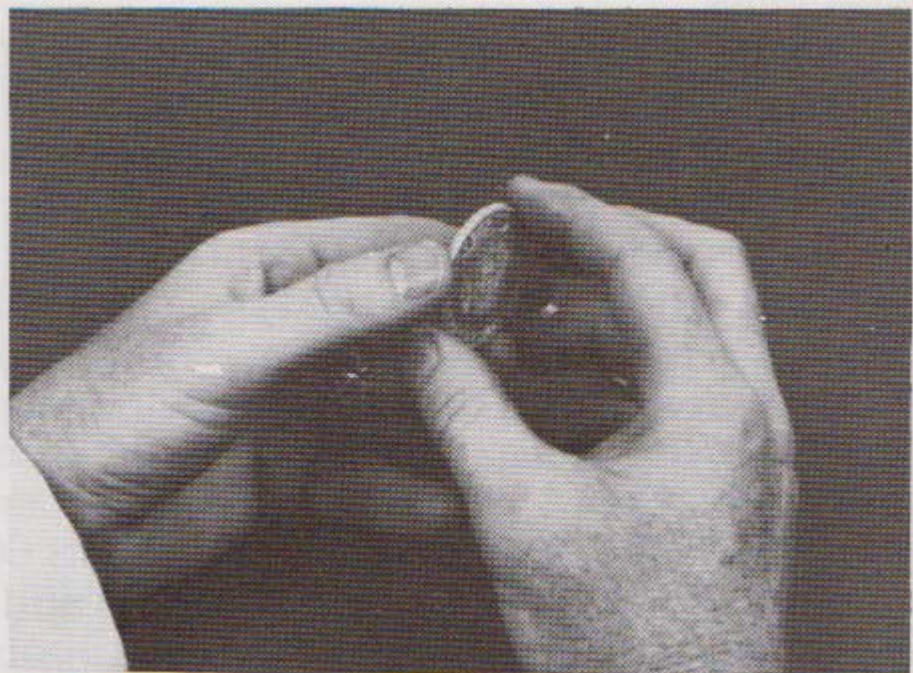
6. Re-check the eagle's breast for rubbing (wear). Focusing upon the center of the eagle's breast, proceed as you did when you examined the obverse for rubbing (Step 4). If there is any rubbing on the reverse, it will appear on the highest portion of the eagle's breast.

7. Using the standards set forth for mint state Morgan Dollars as-

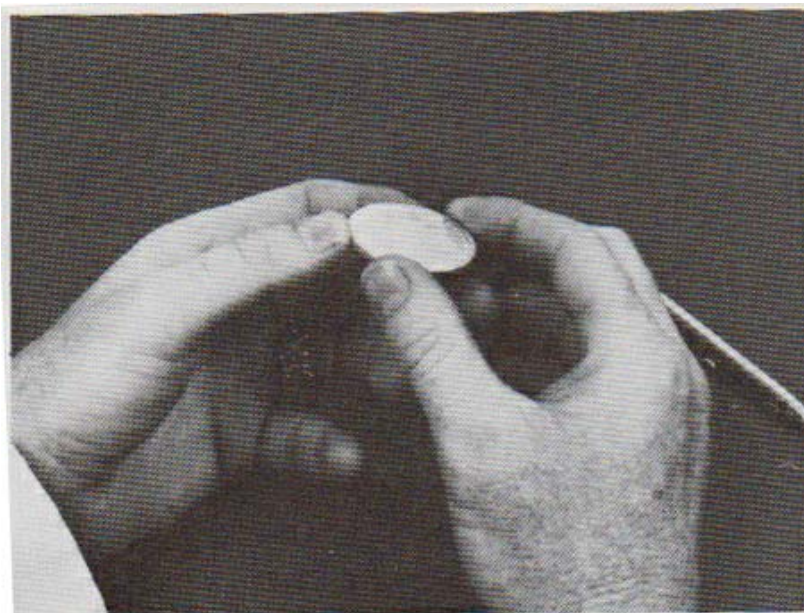
sign the proper grade. *Note: If any rubbing exist, the coin is not in mint state condition, but is in Almost Uncirculated condition.*

The seven steps listed above should provide an accurate and thorough method of grading Mint State Morgan Dollars. However, each collector will ultimately develop his or her own procedure for grading. The authors strongly feel that this procedure should incorporate all of the steps, and that all of the pitfalls mentioned in the grading standards and the technique for grading should be covered.

The authors certainly do not propose that the grader sit down with a copy of this book and count off steps one through seven for every mint State dollar that is examined. With experience, precise grading will become second nature! However, occasional referral to the standards and tech-



Examine the rims of the coins for edge bumps or nicks.



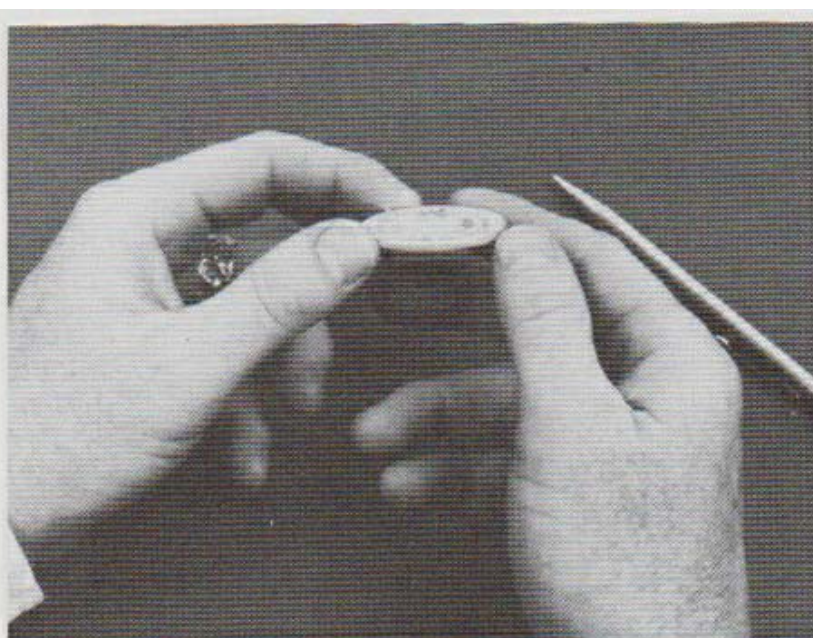
Tilt the coin several times away from you then back to a perpendicular line of sight, always watching for luster breaks.

niques may prove helpful to even the most knowledgeable specialist.

It is not always necessary to follow each of the seven steps in order to arrive at a grade. Scrutinization of an obvious MS60 dollar will not make the bagmarks any less severe. The procedure outlined above becomes more critical as the potential grade of the dollar being examined increases.

Grades exist because differences in value exist among coins of the same issue. As utopian as it

would be, a state of perfect consistency will never exist among graders of coins. If, for some reason, a person is determined to set himself apart from his peers by being so critical and demanding in his standards that he relegates Morgan and Peace Dollars with a few normal bagmarks to the MS 60 category, that person is apt to place some seemingly very high values upon some of his "MS 60" dollars. Similarly, a person who ignores generally accepted standards and overgrades his dollars by five points or more may seem to value his coins far below the going rate.



Watch closely for slide marks or other luster disturbances.

It is the authors' sincere hope that the standards and procedures set forth in this book will enable an increased level of consistency to be reached in the grading of Morgan and Peace Dollars.

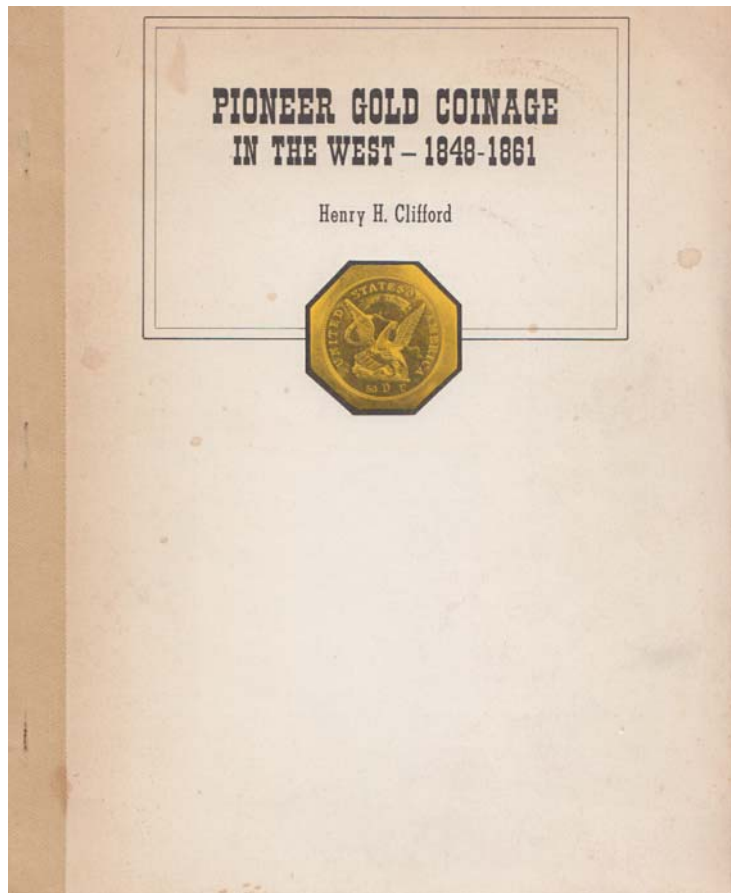
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SPECIAL BOOK REVIEW

(What Do You Collect?)

Doug Nyholm

I have written a book review for a recently published book every month in the Mint Master. There are an abundance of books entering the numismatic market every year, usually at least one new edition every month. This month was no exception with the recent arrival of the seventh book in the series on 'Obsolete Currency' by Q. David Bowers. It seems like David Bowers could single-handedly publish a new book each month! One area that I believe should not be overlooked are the hundreds and thousands of previously published books, and these are not only the books from last year or several years ago but a goodly number of very informative and still important books from decades ago. Being the consummate collector, I collect coins, obviously books, meteorites, and now most recently I have started a collection of colored glass telephone insulators. My closets are full of periodicals, magazines and a myriad of other items as I can't bring myself to even throw out old or back issues of numismatic magazines. Although I have a collection of such reading material which should be enough I am always browsing sites such as EBay and others looking for items to add to my collection and ultimately my knowledge. Recently I came across the book shown here written by Henry H. Clifford on Pioneer Gold Coinage. I was aware that Henry was a major collector of Pioneer Gold and his collection also included a complete collection of Mormon Gold amongst other Mormon memorabilia and currency. I have the auction catalog produced by Bowers and Ruddy in 1982 highlighting the sale of his collection and thought that this book recently advertised on EBay would make a great addition to my library and compliment the auction catalog. Sometimes you find extremely interesting tidbits of information in this type of publication and I was not disappointed in this purchase.

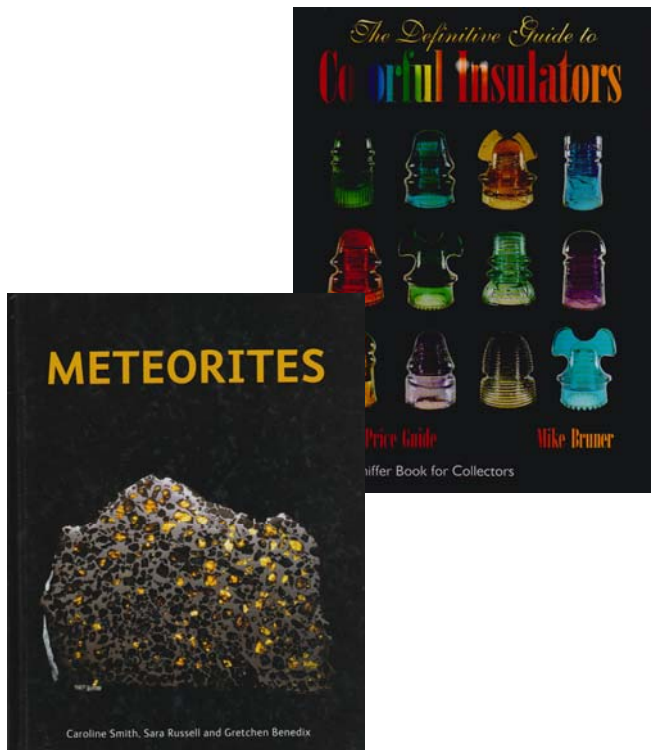
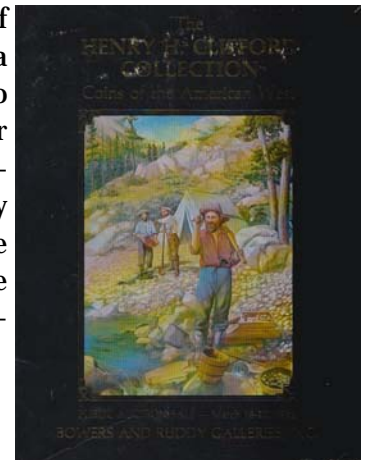


Not only with coins but with any of my collections I find that I enjoy them much more if they are complimented with a book or two on the subject. I

have several books on meteorites, so far only a single book on telephone insulators but as with any book or hobby there is always much to learn. For instance, if you read a number of books



on coins or currency the knowledge gained is not limited only to coins or currency but history is also a side benefit. With meteorites there is much to be learned about the origin of the solar system and even with telephone insulators there is a fascinating history about the foundry's which manufactured them and the need for them in communication. Don't therefore rule out older out-of-print books, there is a wealth of information to be found within their covers. And as an additional bonus, many times you can pick these old references up for the fraction the price of newly published books.





TELL ME A STORY



by
Allan Schein

One of the things we all share in common as coin collectors is the social nature of the hobby. Most everyone in the UNS has told somebody at one time or another about a coin they found, one they read about or one they are looking for. Many of us have a few interesting stories we've shared with someone else. I mean, what's the point of collecting anything if you keep it all to yourself and don't tell anyone? OK, sure, most people are private about their money and investments, and that's appropriate for our individual safety and privacy. But if you can verbally tell your story to someone else you can put it down in writing, whether you think you can or not. If one person found it interesting, the odds are that others will also.

So here's a story as an example. This is a true experience that happened to me in mid-July of this year, just a few weeks ago.

I was in a coin shop and a family came in with a small silver coin they discovered quite by accident. For the sake of everybody's privacy I'm not going to mention names or which shop, but this was really interesting.

These folks had an old player piano they were moving from an upper level to a lower level of their home. They had the piano for decades, and it was time for it to occupy another place in their house. In the process of moving it, they happened to hear something moving around inside when it was tilted one way or another going down the stairs. When they set the piano down, they looked for the cause of the sounds and found in the bottom inside, by the foot pedals, what appeared to be a dime sized coin or token. They couldn't tell at first because it was covered in black gunk, so the lady of the house tried to do some gentle cleaning. She took some mild dish soap and with a little water worked it gently between her fingers and got some of the deposit to come off. She knew enough not to get carried away cleaning it, and never used anything harsh, but removed enough to be able to see the date and exactly what the coin was. This is not recommended, but she used common sense and was at least gentle with it.

To their good fortune they saw it was a Mercury dime, somewhat worn but with clear details. The date was 1916 and after further examination did some online research to learn where to look for a mint mark. They found it clear as day standing crisply on the bottom end of the reverse between the "E" in one and the branch to the left of the fasces. A 1916-D in Fine or slightly better condition. What a great find!

So they ventured out to this coin shop to get an opinion and appraisal. It was my good fortune to be there, and my opinion was asked along with that of a shop employee. The coin was probably a VF-20 and needed professional conservation, and most likely will only come back as a details coin. But even so, it is probably worth somewhere between \$1,500 and \$2,500. Maybe more if it actually grades out.

Something that literally slipped through the cracks many decades before and slept silently in the darkness without the knowledge of the piano's owners was ultimately revealed. A tiny treasure waiting to be discovered. The classic key date Mercury dime. A valuable treasure and a story equal in value to the discovery itself. I expect the family will be sharing that story with friends and family for many years to come, and they'll have the coin and piano to display whenever they play "Show and Tell". (That's also the name of a song by Al Wilson. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ItgAlRuafaU> Yes, the Pun is Intended.)

So check under the cushions of that old couch, and look through the change in your pockets or purse. You never know when or where or what you might find. But if you don't get curious, and you don't look, what passes you by may be another person's Eureka discovery.

Now I don't expect every reader of this newsletter to have quite such a fabulous discovery to share with others. But I bet you have something interesting enough to tell a friend, and that makes it something we would like you to share with the rest of us. We need good stories about coins to write about in the newsletter. So unless you tell us about your story, whether a personal experience or something a friend shared with you, we have to search them out. Or write something technical, or report on industry happenings. The human factor is always the most interesting. If you don't think you write well enough to put it down on paper, that's OK. Send me an email and I'll help you out. But I think we all have a story or two or three in us, and if we can get your story to include it will make for a much better newsletter issue each time one is included.

Contact me at: allan@taekwondograndmaster.com

Thanks.

Happy Coin Hunting.

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UNS CLUB MEMBER ALLAN SCHEIN WINS THE PRADEAU AWARD FROM THE MEXICAN NUMISMATIC SOCIETY



SOCIEDAD NUMISMÁTICA DE MÉXICO, A.C.

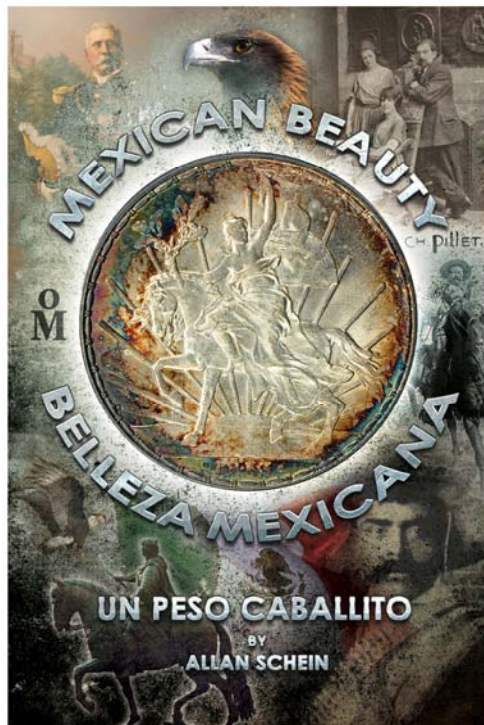
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INSTITUCIÓN CIENTÍFICA Y CULTURAL

We are really happy to inform you that the “**ALBERTO FRANCISCO PRADEAU**” award has been bestowed on you in consideration to your excellent book “The Mexican Beauty, Un Peso Caballito”, the investigation, study and conclusions involved are considered of great merit for the understanding of Mexican Numismatics.



ALLAN WILL TRAVEL TO MEXICO IN LATE AUGUST FOR THE FORMAL PRESENTATION OF THE PRADEAU AND TO RECEIVE THE MEDAL THAT WILL BE BESTOWED FOR THIS HONOR.

THE PRADEAU IS THE HIGHEST AWARD GIVEN IN MEXICAN NUMISMATICS FOR LITERATURE. THIS IS A HUGE HONOR AND A SINGLE WORK OR INDIVIDUAL IS CHOSEN EACH YEAR. ALLAN JOINS A SHORT LIST OF LUMINARIES TO HAVE BEEN THE RECIPIENT OF THIS PRIZE.

HIS NEXT BOOK, THE \$2.50 & \$5 GOLD INDIANS OF BELA LYON PRATT WILL BE RELEASED AT THE ANA SUMMER MONEY SHOW IN ANAHEIM, CA IN AUGUST 2016.

Upcoming Shows

6th Annual Salt Lake Summer Coin & Stamp Show

Fri Aug 19 & Sat Aug 20, 2016

Sons of Utah Pioneer Building

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Saturday
September 3rd, 2016
9:00AM to 1:00PM

\$1 Donation



Redwood Multipurpose Center
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Early Viewing Starts at 8:00AM There will be a \$10 Early entrance fee.

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August 9, 10, 11, 12, 15 & 16, 2016 • Anaheim, CA



Lot Viewing will be conducted at the Anaheim Convention Center at
Booth 100 Hall D (on the bourse floor), as follows:

August 6-12: 9:00 AM - 6:00 PM PT • August 13: 9:00 AM - Noon PT

U.S. Coins and Currency

Session 1 U.S. Coins

Tuesday, August 9 • 11:00 AM PT
Lots 1-517

Session 2 U.S. Coins

Tuesday, August 9 • 6:00 PM PT
Lots 1001-1323

Session 3 U.S. Currency

Wednesday, August 10 • 6:00 PM PT
Lots 10001-10655

Session 4 U.S. Coins

Thursday, August 11 • 10:00 AM PT
Lots 2001-2581

Session 5 Rarities Night

Thursday, August 11 • 5:00 PM PT
Lots 3001-3543

Session 6 - Internet Only

U.S. Coins - Part 1

Monday, August 15 • 9:00 AM PT
Lots 4001- 5262

Session 7 - Internet Only

U.S. Coins - Part 2

Tuesday, August 16 • 9:00 AM PT
Lots 6001-7337

Session 8 - Internet Only

U.S. Currency

Tuesday, August 16 • 9:00 AM PT
Lots 11001-11584

World Coins and Paper Money

Session A Ancient & World Coins

Wednesday, August 10 • 9:00 AM PT
Ancient Coins
Lots 20001-20194
World Coins: Afghanistan to Great Britain
Lots 20195-20669

Session B World Coins

Friday, August 12 • 9:00 AM PT
World Coins: Greece to End
Lots 21001-21594

Session C World Paper Money

Friday, August 12 • 6:00 PM PT
Lots 30001-30457

Session D - Internet Only Ancient & World Coins

Monday, August 15 • 9:00 AM PT
Ancient Coins Lots 22001-22105
World Coins Lots 22106-23140

Session E - Internet Only World Paper Money

Tuesday, August 16 • 12:00 Noon PT
Lots 31001-31691

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Thoughts on Coin Grading

By Doug Nyholm

I hope that you all had a chance to read last month's article by Rick Snow on grading. This month published herein is an 30+ year old article by Steve Ivy regarding grading mint state Morgan Dollars. It seems that the grading processes, standards, and techniques are both evolving and remaining the same. Just how this is, is the topic of this article. We are constantly hearing about 'grade deflation,' updated standards for grading, new companies certifying other companies grades and on and on. Everything needs to be certified but there are millions, no billions of raw coins that are collected everyday and the comment arises that the certification companies have virtually graded everything (almost) worth grading and are constantly looking for new ways to get collectors to submit or re-submit their coins. There are special labels, special holders, stickers and these companies run a thriving business and literally make millions of dollars without ever purchasing or selling a coin. Simply stated, grading

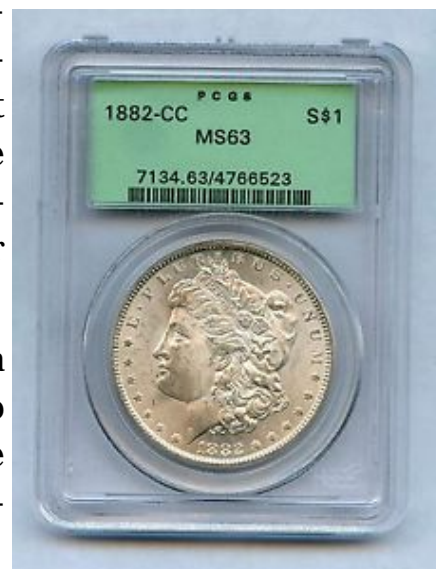


is our responsibility, we the collectors, and to a point thousands of coin dealers. So just how do we know what our coins, raw or certified are worth? As Steve Ivy stated in his article, it really comes down to value and who will pay x amount of dollars for that coin that we purchased with our hard earned money and what really is its grade? Well, many of us are pretty experienced in assigning a grade (unfortunately, some are not) but when we look at that certified coin that says it is AU-55, MS-63 or whatever grade, is it? Does it have an additional sticker on it? Is that additional sticker gold, green, or some other design.

Then forget about the plastic, what about that raw coin you purchased years ago in that cardboard flip which still has the dealers grade of MS-63 on it. Is it still a MS-63? If you take it to another dealer he may very well say that he believes that it is a MS-61 or MS-62 or that it isn't

Mint State at all. And what about the situation where a person will resubmit a coin over a dozen times which was graded MS-64 in an attempt to get an MS-65 grade? Then on the 13th time it comes back MS-65. Take for example a 1916-D Mercury Dime and forget the Full Bands. Value in the August Coin World Trends which just came in the mail today shows \$17,500 in MS-64 whereas the price jumps to \$25,000 in MS-65. A pretty good profit for a few submissions. Now he puts it up for sale and the next owner has a gem MS-65 coin. But wait, is it really 65 or is it 64? Is this part of grade deflation? Where does it stop? It seems like it is even worse for raw coins. Remember that coin in the flip graded MS-63 you purchased a few years ago. Now you want to sell it and it seems that everyone wants to downgrade it and pay you less than what you paid. Don't get me wrong, I am not trying to slam any of the grading services, or dealers or anyone other than you who may have a different opinion of what the grade a particular coin is. This is a very subjective process and is definitely open to opinions and interpretations. It does however seem that over the decades the general creep of grades is definitely upward, not downward. Q. David Bowers has said and also pointed out in many of his books that coins should probably be chosen for their eye appeal and strike and ultimately their condition based upon the purchasers or collectors knowledge. These cherry-picked gem quality gorgeous coins no matter what the assigned grade should sell for a premium. However as Rick Snow pointed out this premium buyer has to be one of those intelligent and informed collectors in order to appreciate this above average coin, and in many events realistically has to throw the price guide out other than for a basic reference.

Now that all the questions are asked, what does a collector do to assure that the coins he adds to his collection are properly graded and worth the value for which he paid for them? The easy an-



answer is 'LEARN TO GRADE.' Just go on-line and google coin grading, read the article and problem solved. Now of course if you did google this and read everything ever written on the subject you would probably be 102 years old and still may not be an expert. Of course reading and studying is important but there is nothing like first hand experience. In order to acquire this attend every coin show you can and look at dealers stock. Look at both certified and



raw coins. Additionally, ask questions, take notes, if possible purchase a grading set of the type of coins your interested in. Study the published data on each and every date to determine which coins usually come well struck and those that are rarities with a full strike. When purchasing coins for your collection buy the best you can afford. This doesn't mean you have to put together BU sets or only MS-65 sets. Remember that not all



VF coins or XF coins are equal. Don't select the first coin in the grade you desire but make a note and look at several. Likely if you select 3 or 4 at least one of them will stand out amongst the lot. Then compare the asking price. The best looking one will probably be the most expensive (maybe not) and you will have to

then determine if the value is worth the price. Remember, quality never comes cheap. In fact the coin you choose may have an asking price higher than the price guides. Don't let this dissuade you. To state it again, quality never comes cheap. Take a look at a modern auction catalog and choose a rather scarce dated coin preferably in uncirculated condition. Pick one that has others in the same condition and compare the quality of each.

Then after the auction go on-line and check the prices realized and see which ones sold for more and which ones for less. When selling your coins, especially the better ones remember that there are many collectors with discerning eyes and they will spend extra for that coin with exceptional eye appeal. These are the collectors who years later sell their collections who are usually very satisfied with the results. The collectors who purchase the grade or holder and not the coin can often be disappointed.



To say again, this does not only apply to BU coins but coins in all conditions. There is not one simple rule or guide other than be informed, buy the best in your grade, and purchase the best you can afford. In the upcoming ANA sale Stacks is offering a 1969-D Jefferson Nickel with 'Full Steps' in their Rarities Night auction. This is advertised as the only one known! Can you imagine, a modern Jefferson Nickel being unique. Someone had their eye on quality and found this gem and will now be cashing in. They're still out there, keep looking.

Doug Nyholm



1927 D Standing Liberty Quarter F/VF

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0 bids

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**ELECTION ' / GUEST
SPEAKER**

DECEMBER

CHRISTMAS

**AS ALWAYS THE UNS
SINCERELY APPRE-
CIATES THE CONTRI-
BUTIONS OF LOCAL
DEALERS AND BUSI-
NESSES TO OUR AN-
NUAL YOUTH NIGHT.
THIS ACTIVITY GOES
A LONG WAY IN PRO-
MOTING INTEREST
IN NUMISMATICS
WITHIN THE
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WE ARE THANKFUL
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TIONS THIS YEAR
FROM LOCAL BUSI-
NESSES:**

**LEGACY COINS
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ALL ABOUT COINS
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KOLORCRAFT**

PRIZES FOR AUGUST

Youth prize - 1982 Proof Set & 2016 Blue Book

On-time prize - 2015 Coin and Currency Set

Member prize - 1921 Morgan Dollar

Buy of the Month

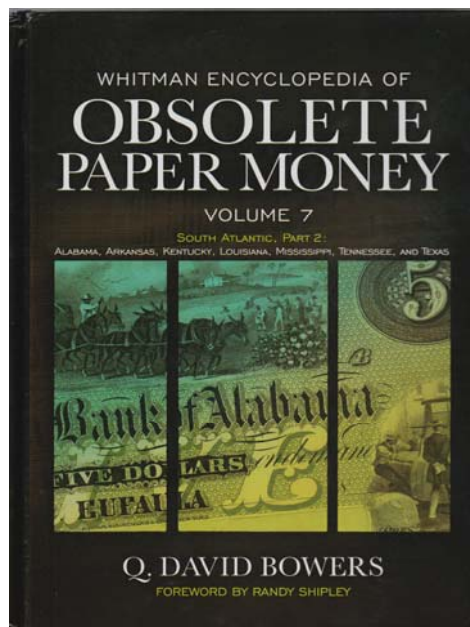
For the Buy of the Month in August, I will have a selection of 1976 Bicentennial 40% Silver Eisenhower Dollars. There were several different types of this coin minted, including copper-nickel- and silver-clad, Proof and Uncirculated finishes, and Type 1 (bold) and Type 2 (Thin) lettering. The silver-clad are definitely harder to come by. These coins retail for \$15-\$25 dollars, depending, of course, on the condition and strike. The price is not yet firm, but I am trying to keep them at \$10 a piece. Quantities will be limited.

Drawing Prizes

1986 Liberty Commemorative 2-coin set
Civil War Token The Flag
National Park Service Commemorative \$1 proof
1964 Mexico mint coin set
3 Off-center Strike Lincoln cents
Canadian Specimen reverse proof set
Canadian Specimen reverse proof set
Bicentennial Silver 3-coin set
National Park Service Commemorative half proof
National Park Service Commemorative half Unc
10-Coin Proof Nickel Set
10-Coin Proof Nickel Set

We did not do drawings at the picnic last month so the list of prizes is the same as last month.





OBsolete PAPER MONEY VOLUME 7

Available directly from Whitman Books for \$69 + S&H

Full Color / 720 pages

"Obsolete Currency Volume 7"

Volume 7 of the ongoing series of Obsolete Paper Money series arrived last week at my doorstep. This volume covers the South Atlantic / Part 2. The states specifically covered are Alabama, Arkansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, Tennessee and Texas. The book is a whopping 720 pages in full color and follows the general format of the previous versions. I do not know how many volumes the entire set will eventually cover but I suspect it will be in the range of 12-14 with Utah on schedule to be near the end. This is an amazing series and the undertaking to document all of the obsolete currency issued in the United States is truly monumental. I doubt there is anyone alive who could or would tackle this other than David Bowers and his associates. These books not only cover each note, most with images, but also indicate rarity, value and a brief history of each individual bank. Each state also begins with a several page introduction to banking in the entire state. There is also a cross-index at the back of each volume with corresponding Haxby numbers. The amount of research involved with each volume and the amazing images is enough to keep one mesmerized for hours admiring them and learning about banking in the early years of the United States. At \$69.00 each, the library doesn't come cheap but if you enjoy currency it is worth the investment.

Volume 1

Introduction for Collectors and Historians

Volume 2

New England / Part 1 Connecticut / Maine / New Hampshire

Volume 3

New England / Part 2 Massachusetts Book 1

Volume 4

New England / Part 2 Massachusetts Book 2

Volume 5

New England / Part 3 Rhode Island & Vermont

Volume 6

South Atlantic / Part 1 Florida, Georgia, North Carolina, & South Carolina

Volume 7

South Atlantic / Part 2 Alabama, Arkansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, Tennessee & Texas



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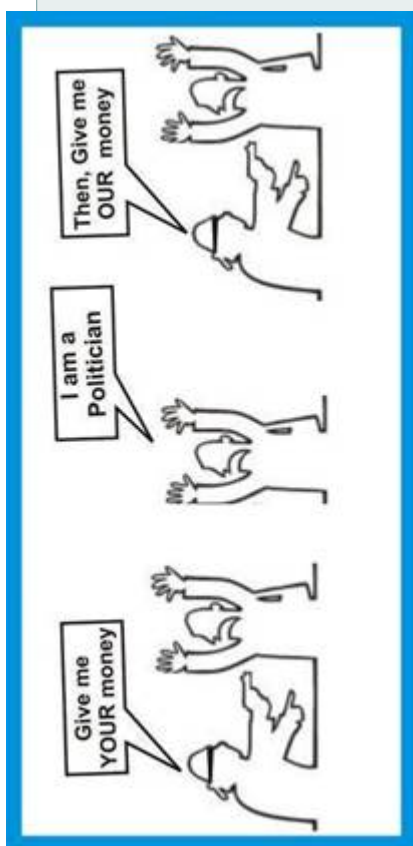
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Special Coin Quiz for Experts

The cent pictured here may sell for thousands of dollars in Stacks/Bowers ANA auction. It is currently unique. What is special about it?

“Obscure Trivia Quiz?”

1. Which of the following dates of Lincoln Cents is not a double die?
A) 1917
B) 1955
C) 1934
D) 1958
2. Which of the following coins are not presently unique?
A) 1870-S Half Dime
B) 1822 \$5 Gold Eagle
C) 1873-CC NA Dime
D) 1870-S \$3 Gold
3. Which of the following is NOT a ‘No S’ Proof?
A) 1975 Dime
B) 1971 Nickel
C) 1990 Cent
D) 1975 Quarter
4. Which of the following coins were minted but presently not known to exist?
A) 1873-S NA Half Dollar
B) 1815 Large Cent
C) 1964 Peace Dollar
D) 1931 Quarter
5. Which of the following coins were NOT minted by the United States?
A) 1861-O Half Dollar
B) 1900 Lafayette Dollar
C) 1861-D Gold \$1
D) 1801 Half Dollar

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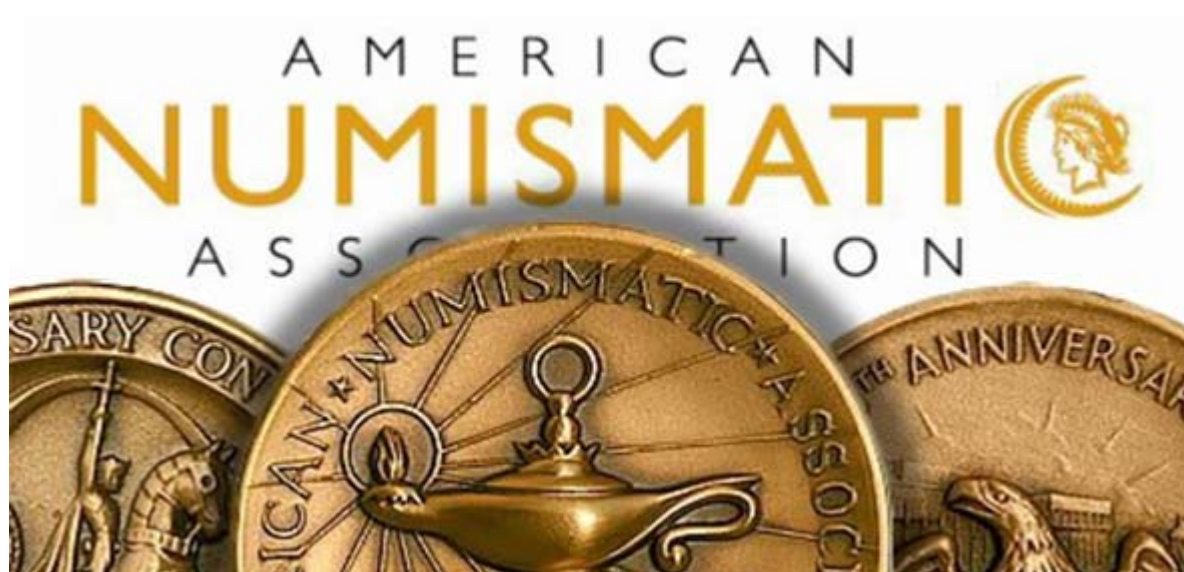
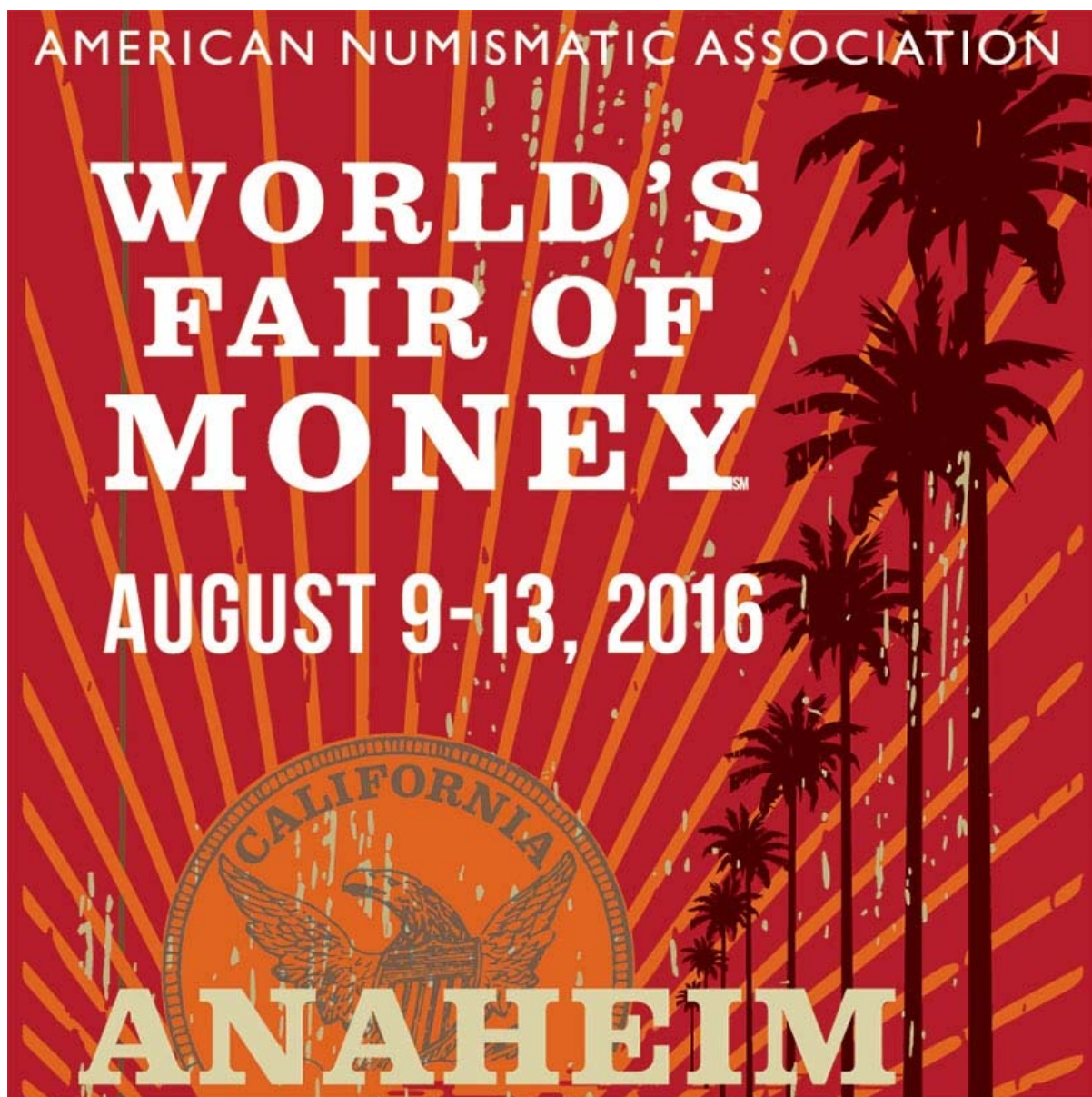
Dave Blackhurst

801-580-9534



ANA Convention Anaheim California

August 9-13



EDITORS MESSAGE—JULY 2016



The Mint Master is in good health and I want to thank all of you for your support. I see only greater things in store and hope that you all continue to enjoy the features and articles within these pages.

One point of discussion that came up was in some way to resurrect the "Spotlight" on our members. We tried this awhile back during our meetings but for some reason it just faded away. The discussion turned up to the idea that some collectors would like to remain anonymous for either personal or security reasons. If any of you would like to share any of your collecting experiences with the members the board understands this

and we can either give you credit or make your thoughts private. It would be nice for each of our members to get to know each other better. This would make all of our collecting experiences stronger and better and improve the UNS in several different ways. In any event the board would like to invite all of you to increase your enjoyment and participation either publically or privately. Tell us about something special you have experienced, found, or done. Write a short article for the Mint Master. Again any or all of this can be done privately or publically. Tell us about your other collecting interests.

There is a bottle show upcoming in September and how many of you plan to attend that? I attended last years for the first time and had a great experience. It even started me on a new collection. I now collect glass telephone insulators and attended their spring show earlier this year in Logan. I now have 50 of them, much to the chagrin of my wife who says where are you going to put these things. In reality, she is totally on board and has even looked for them in local antique stores and on EBay to add to my collection. Someday I might even bring them to the club meeting for display. We have had alternative hobby displays before. Thanks again for all of you and all that you do.

Sincerely,
Doug Nyholm



YOUNG NUMISMATISTS CORNER

NUMISMATIC GLOSSARIES NEED UPDATING TO INCLUDE THE SPECIMEN CATEGORY FOR U.S. MINT OFFERINGS

When I started my numismatic pursuits over 60 years ago, I only had to be concerned with basically two categories of coins: proof and circulation or business strike. Within those two categories, I then had to determine whether a coin was in uncirculated mint state condition or had been used in circulation and if so, how much it had been degraded from its original mint state condition. Proof coins only had mirror-like finishes on both sides and uncirculated business strike coins had shiny lustrous, but not mirror-like finishes. Today's collecting environment however, is much more challenging. Advances in and availability of technology have allowed for the cost-effective production of artistic, highly detailed and eye appealing coins with multiple finishes on each side. Fifty, twenty-five or even ten years ago, the labor intensive efforts to produce such coins were cost prohibitive. Adding to the increasingly complex and challenging environment was the introduction of the U.S. Mint's officially defined "Uncirculated" category, which I believe is really "Specimen" under most commonly accepted definitions of the term. In 2016, I find it strange that a definition for specimen cannot be found in the Red Book, Official A.N.A. Grading Standards for United States Coins or Handbook of United States Coins.

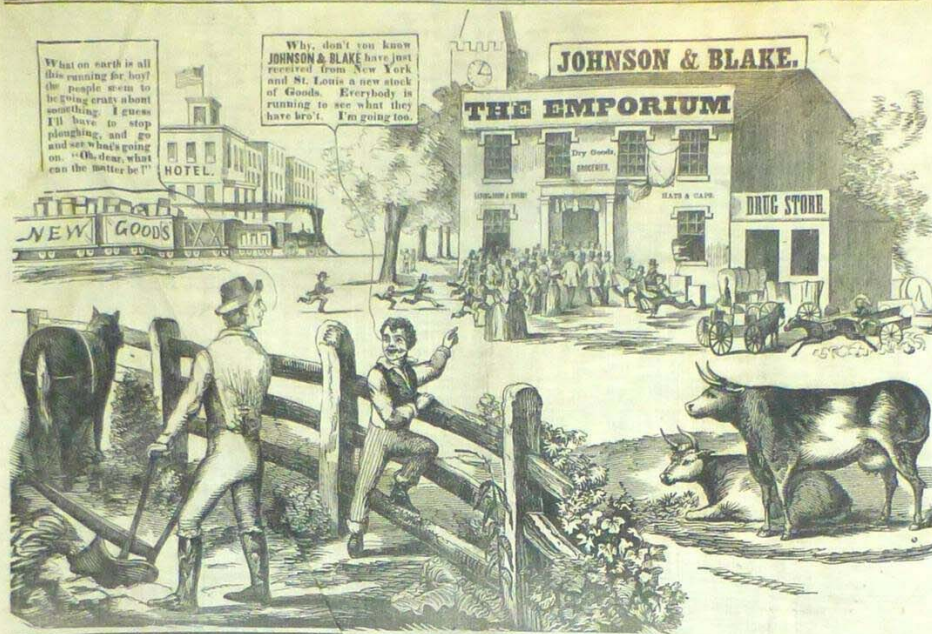
The limited use of the Specimen category was, in my estimation, highlighted in an article by Paul Gilkes, senior editor for U.S. coins at *Coin World* in his June article "APPLYING THE FINAL TOUCHES." In his article, he describes the various coin finishes introduced by the mint in the past decade. None of the coins discussed in the article were circulation or business strikes although all are legal tender. For the Proof coins he described, I had no problem with the PR designation. Likewise I had no problem with the simple MS designation for straight bullion strikes. But, I do have a problem with a simple MS designation for any of the other coins which were produced specifically for numismatic collection and include attributes such as Matte, Burnished, Uncirculated, Enhanced Uncirculated or Satin in their descriptions. All of these terms indicate something special was involved during or after the minting process. It may have been short of the Proof production process but was more than the circulation/ business minting process. Under the Mint's new definition of Uncirculated, the majority of the coins meet most or all of the requirements of a definition for Specimen since they used special dies, higher strike pressures, multiple strikes, limited strike numbers, special handling and in some cases specially prepared planchets or post production vapor blasting. I also believe the Uncirculated sets sold by the Mint fit in this category too.



Perhaps a good starting point for a discussion about a new definition for the category Specimen could start with this: SPECIMEN: "A hybrid between circulation/business strike and Proof strike. Includes specially minted high quality coins of regular designs and metal for collectors, commemoration and/or presentation. May have mirror-like, satiny and/or matte finishes/surfaces. Minting process may involve specially prepared dies and/or planchets, higher pressure strikes, multiple strikes and special handling." What do you think? And no, I haven't lost my mind. For years I have tried to figure out how to handle all of these special Mint offerings and Paul's article provided direction.

Phil Clark

CRESCENT CITY AHEAD!



The Mormon War goes on, and Supplies have arrived at the Universal Emporium, CRESCENT CITY. Competition defied—Cash System vindicated—Foggy Competitors raving—Old Stocks of Goods in danger, and Hard Times kicked out of the way. The Good Time has come, and so has that tremendous Stock of exquisite, low priced Goods, at the Store of

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Six Trains of Cars were employed to transport them across the Country, and five Steamboats to bring them up the Missouri. They have every thing now on hand at prices that would make the poor manufacturers blush with shame for those who would thus sacrifice them to labor and toil. Their Stock is such an one—such a complicated Menagerie—and museum of rare kinds, sorts, patterns, and quantities as have never been seen together since old Noah and his Sons evacuated the Ark: and they sell lower than ever those Old Patriarchal Land Speculators ever offered to sell Real Estate, when they possessed the Globe—and then such smiling, good-natured, sociable fellows, as those Clerks are—nice young men—Ah! 'tis a pleasure to see them so lively, clean, and obliging! They have Spices from India, and Sweets from the Sunny South—Cloths from Lowell and Manchester, and Silks and bright colors from Turkey and Italy.

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Great Bust Up of the man that tried to sell Goods cheaper than JOHNSON & BLAKE.

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TOBACCOES
From the Turks.
CIGARS
From the Islands of the Sea.
GOLDEN ORNAMENTS
From Upland, and
CORAL & PEARLS
From the depths of the Ocean.

Their **DRUGS** are from Ceylon; **BALM** for the Sick from Mount Gilboa; and rare **INCENSE** and **MYRRH**, from afar off; their **PERFUMERY**, from Orange Groves and Bowers of Roses and Jessamine.

CARPETS

From Turkey; and fine twined **LINEN** from Egypt and Hibernia. All that is good for Man, that will make Woman more beautiful, or Children most pleased, from the Lakes, the Seas, the Ocean, the Rivers, near or afar off; All that Earth, Air, or Water contains that was pronounced **GOOD** for mortals has its representative at the **BAZAAR** of JOHNSON & BLAKE, in the New and Charming Town of Crescent City.

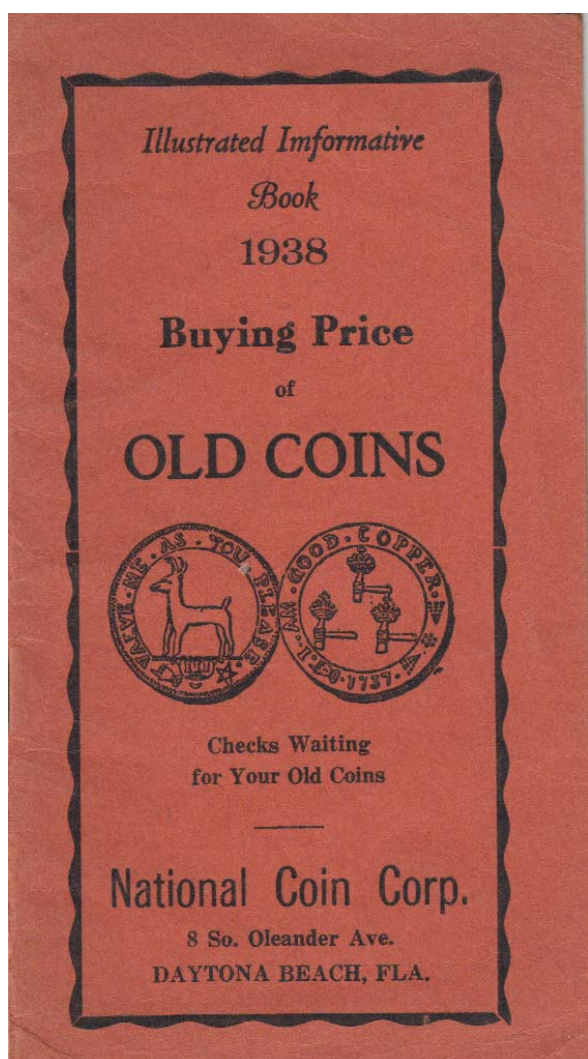
Not particular about pay, they take anything but **PROMISES**; and they wish it distinctly understood that they do not take the article in payment for Merchandise, but will with pleasure receive every variety of Country Produce and Grain; and until times get better, will take Current Paper at par, and Gold and Silver at half per cent. discount.

Show here is an early Broadside from early Utah printed on cloth. Most likely uniue this picture was supplied courtesy of Ron Fox.

NATIONAL COIN CORP. Buying Price List from 1938

This month is a list of 'Buy' prices from the National Coin Corp. located in Daytona Beach Fl. Only specific coins are listed, those which we would consider top rarities in today's market. These old lists which are mainly from the 1930's or in the middle to late depression years are quite similar and all the prices listed would make the modern collector drool. Of course if you remember your history there were millions of citizens out of work and even those who had employment only made pennies a day. Therefore the proliferation of these companies and their booklets could turn out to be a bounty similar to winning the lottery today if any of the coins listed were part of grandpa's collection. The odds were probably close to the odds of winning the lottery today, but then the possibility of finding a coin worth more than face value could have been somewhat likely, but that 1796 quarter for \$2.00 or 1894-S dime were probably never found by any unemployed workers during these years. Many ads in national

print advertised riches, on a relative scale, for that 1913 nickel or 1804 dollar. These ads were just an eye catcher to get the common person looking. When the first ad for the 1913 nickel was placed those in the know in the collecting hobby were virtually positive that there were only 5 known and their whereabouts at the time were known. Similarly these advertisers also knew that the possibility of someone walking in with an 1804 Silver Dollar were virtually non-existent. Still the ads worked and made a generation aware that coins could be worth more than face value. It didn't take too many years for the prices of scarce coins to escalate and those who did have discretionary income to begin the hobby. Elisaberg began putting together his complete collection of every regular issue U.S. coin during this timeframe and became the only person to accomplish the task of completing a complete collection. Astoundingly he put the collection together for about \$400,000.00! When it was sold it brought many millions of dollars! Today there are dozens if not hundreds of coins that would cost that much or more individually.



DIMES OR TEN CENTS SILVER



Coinage began in 1796

		Total coined
1796	\$1.00 to \$ 5.00	22,135
1797	2.50 to 10.00	25,265
1798	2.50 to 12.00	27,550
1800	2.50 to 12.00	21,760
1801	2.50 to 12.00	34,640
1802	2.50 to 12.00	10,975
1803	2.50 to 12.00	33,040
1804	5.00 to 25.00	8,265
1807	.25 to 2.50	165,000
1809	.25 to 2.50	44,710
1811	.25 to 2.50	65,180
1822	.50 to 3.00	100,000
1860 O Mint	.25 to 3.00	40,000
1885 S Mint	.25 to 2.00	43,690
1894 S Mint	200.00 to 600.00	24
Other dates wanted.		

U. S. TWENTY CENT PIECES

Coined from 1875 to 1878

		Total coined
1875 and 1876	\$.25 to \$.35	1,343,890
1876 C C Mint	25.00 to 150.00	10,000
1877	1.00 to 4.00	510
1878	1.00 to 4.00	600

U.S. Quarter Dollars



Coinage began in 1796

U. S. Quarters	Dollars, Cont.	Total coined
1796	\$ 2.00 to \$ 15.00	5,894
1804	1.50 to 10.00	6,738
1805 to 1807	.35 to 1.00	548,161
1818 to 1822	.30 to 1.00	913,549
1823	25.00 to 100.00	17,800
1824	.30 to 2.00	
1827	150.00 to 300.00	4,000
1853 without rays and arrows	2.00 to 10.00	15,254,220
1866 without "In We Trust"	1.00 to 7.00	17,525
Other dates wanted.		

U. S. HALF DOLLARS

First Coined in 1794

		Total coined
1794	\$ 2.50 to \$ 6.00	5,300
1795	1.00 to 6.00	317,836
1796	20.00 to 100.00	
1797	10.00 to 35.00	3,918
1801	1.00 to 35.00	30,289
1815	1.00 to 5.00	47,150
1838 New Orleans Mint (O between Bust and date)	100.00 to 1000.00	20
1853 without rays and arrows	100.00 to 250.00	
1866 without "In God We Trust"	2.00 to 10.00	
1878 San Francisco Mint (S. Under Eagle)	5.00 to 10.00	
1916 2nd type D. unc.		2.00
1927 Bennington unc.		2.00
1928 Cook, Hawaiian		5.00
1933 Oregon Trail		4.00
Other dates wanted.		

SILVER DOLLARS



First coined in 1794

One of the pages inside the brochure pictured on the previous page.

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The Utah Numismatic Society is now enjoying its 64th year serving collectors in Utah. We sponsor an annual coin show held in Sandy which you may have attended. Our monthly meetings are held on the second Tuesday in Salt Lake City. We have many knowledgeable as well as novice and beginning collectors in attendance every month.

Our monthly publication entitled "The Mint Master" contains interesting reading featuring articles such as the 'Counterfeit Corner,' 'Book Reviews,' 'Young Numismatists,' as well as many other numismatic news-worthy columns.

Our meetings include Bourse, Auctions, expert speakers as well as our annual "Youth Night" and "Summer Picnic."

We invite you to attend one of our meetings held at the Columbus Community Center, 2350 S. 500 E., Salt Lake City.

